



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Justice Committee

Shona Robison MSP
Cabinet Secretary for Health and
Sport

By e-mail

All correspondence c/o:
Justice Committee Clerks
Room T2.60
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

Tel: 0131 348 5220
Textphone: 0800 092 7100
justicecommittee@parliament.scot

14 March 2017

Dear Shona

Healthcare services provided to those in custody

The Justice Committee held a roundtable evidence session on 24 January on the topic of 'demand-led policing'.

An issue that was raised during that evidence session was the inconsistent level of healthcare services provided to those in custody. The Committee heard that when Police Scotland was created a sum of money was transferred from the block police grant to the NHS to provide healthcare services for those in custody. Standards of service were agreed at that time, which the Committee was told have not been met consistently across Scotland.

The Committee understands that work is on-going between the NHS and the Scottish Government to improve standards of healthcare provision for people in custody, as well as for forensic examination.

The Committee would appreciate an update on the Scottish Government's work with the NHS to ensure that agreed standards of healthcare services are provided consistently to those in custody throughout Scotland.

A copy of this letter has been sent to the Health and Sport Committee for information.

Best wishes

Margaret Mitchell MSP
Convener, Justice Committee